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Flood Of War Talk

As Tokyo Makes New Threats

JAPANESE MASS ON THE SIBERIAN FRONT

JAPAN WAS REPORTED LAST NIGHT TO BE MAKING "WIDESPREAD MILITARY PREPARATIONS" AGAINST BRITAIN AND AMERICA IN THE PACIFIC AND AGAINST RUSSIA ON THE SIBERIAN FRONT. HER CABINET MINISTERS EMPHASISED THAT IN THE TENSE SITUATION NOW EXISTING "A SINGLE SPARK MIGHT CAUSE AN EXPLOSION."

A flood of messages from Tokyo describing the Japanese activities all tended to create the impression that Japan was standing on the brink of war, and was ready to go over the top.

In London the view was taken that these latest threats should be interpreted either as indication of Japan's determination to break the Anglo-American blockade or as an attempt to frighten Thailand into allowing Japan the use of military bases.

Whatever move Japan may make she will find Britain fully prepared.

Our Far East garrisons have been strongly reinforced. American-built fighter planes have arrived in large numbers in Burma and Malaya.

Tokyo refused to reveal the nature of her military preparations, but allowed it to be known that Japan had probably the largest force under arms in her history.

One "very considerable Japanese force" was stated to have been sent to Manchukuo possibly as a threat to Vladivostok, Russia's only large port on the Siberian coast.

PROGRAMME BEATEN

Record Output By "Tank Boys"

BRITAIN'S "TANK BOYS" HAVE GONE TO IT AND SET UP A RECORD IN OUTPUT IN JULY.

Lord Beaverbrook, the Minister of Supply, disclosed this last night in a message he has sent to workers in tank factories.

The text of his message is: "To the tank boys: 'Your output for the month of July has been a record. You have surpassed my expectations. You have beaten the programme which laid down for your direction on the first day of the month. By your exertions you have earned the gratitude and admiration of the people of this country. So have a good holiday on Monday and come back on Tuesday with the certain knowledge that you are going to make August a better tank month than July.'"

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GUESS WHO THIS IS?

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Vichy Turns Down New Demands

PETAIN REBUFFS THE NAZIS

MARSHAL PETAIN, it was reported from Vichy last night, has turned down German demands for still closer collaboration with the Axis.

After receiving Count de Brion, the Nazi-nominated Vichy Ambassador in Paris, Marshal Petain yesterday summoned a Council of Ministers.

The meeting lasted two hours, says A.P., and afterwards it was reported that he had "decided to take his own decision, regardless of pressure."

Political circles said that the Marshal had handled the situation calmly, taking the stand that Vichy should not go beyond the existing collaboration agreement.

Insured statements from Paris and Swiss newspapers had hinted that the Germans were seeking changes in the Vichy Government control over French naval bases in Africa, the handing over of French warships, and a clear-cut scheme for Franco-German "protection" in Northern Africa.

In addition, the Germans had asked Petain to take action that would compel General Weingart to resign his military command.

There is little doubt that in showing the Nazi demands the Vichy Government has refused to mind the hold-up of the German offensive in Russia and in France, therefore, to sit on the fence.

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MOSCOW CLAIMS VICTORIES

Russians Launch Tank Attack

AFTER HAVING FOUGHT HITLER'S SIX WEEKS-OLD BLITZKRIEG TO A STANDSTILL ON THE GREATER PART OF THE EASTERN FRONT, STALIN WAS REPORTED YESTERDAY TO HAVE LAUNCHED AN OFFENSIVE OF HIS OWN.

The official German News Agency stated that Russian tank forces had begun a heavy attack on the central front.

It said that heavy fighting was going on and claimed that the Germans had succeeded in holding off the Russians and that the attack from being fully developed.

New Russian successes were reported from Moscow yesterday.

German drives on Leningrad from north and south have been halted according to messages reaching the capital from Leningrad. They say that Leningrad is not now threatened.

The Russians have destroyed a substantial part of the German division, capturing the remainder together with large booty, after a four-day battle near a city, described as the City of V. according to latest despatches from the front.

The two German regiments, the 11th motorized regiment and the 16th regiment of the 11th tank corps, were completely destroyed.

The Russians, according to these despatches, have advanced to new lines on another sector after mopping up the enemy in four separate bayonet charges.

ROUTED

In one sector of the Smolensk front the Germans are reported to be in retreat.

The 127th German infantry division, which had been routed by the Red Army, is reported to be in retreat.

Before it had time to deploy, Russian troops attacked it from both flanks. Soviet artillery poured a barrage into the ranks of the demoralized Germans and threw them into confusion.

Units attacked with the bayonet. The division made a forced march through the night and was thrown straight into the battle to support its retreating comrades.

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"I'LL TELL YOU WHY MY BATH'S NOT SCRATCHED."
The hostess cried with meaning.
"Harsh scourers never touch it, for I use Vim—it's smooth cleaning!"

VIM
NEVER SCRATCHES
CLEANS SAFELY
CLEANS SMOOTHLY

BUILDERS

YOUR WORK IS VITAL



Aerodromes, Airfields, Warehouses, Oil Stores, Factories, Hostels—have all vitally important—and every individual engaged on this work makes a real contribution to the nation's war effort by striving to complete each job ahead of time.

Ministry of Works



3-IN-ONE OIL
IN THE NEW ECONOMY TUBE

OIL SAVES TOIL
"Three-in-One," the famous triple action oil which lubricates—cleans—prevents rust, saves wear and costs less to sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, garden tools, etc. It imparts a wonderful polish to windows, mirrors, furniture and car wheels. Now obtainable in handy oil-tight tubes. Ed. 1/1 from all Ironmongers and Hardware Dealers. (Exempt from Purchase Tax).

BOB MARTIN'S keep dogs fit



THE Englishmen comment: The English are coming! "These words should almost hysterically pass from mouth to mouth. They sweep the docks and shipping wharves, the whole harbour district, resounding from the lips of thousands of overworked, deflected dock labourers, living, shipping engineers on night shift. About three times a week the same repeats itself. The regularity of the raids has not hardened the men but has taken the excitement out of their voices as they shout: 'Die Engländer kommen!'" Most of these men have spent the day in barracks. But even though summer evenings in Hamburg are hot, windows in the most crowded districts are closed. Long before it is blackout time, many curtains are drawn. Not a sound comes from all these flats and rooms. Patrolling the streets are old reserve policemen, some recently called back to service after the tough and brutal Nazi police, the S.S. Black Corps, had spent some time in the front to suppress the regular army.

These reserve police know the reason for the closed windows and drawn curtains. They have sat behind those windows on many occasions, fearing that, one day, the S.S. might pounce on them. Behind every one of these windows sits a family, a father, a mother, a brother, a sweetheart, listening to foreign broadcasts, to music, to the news, to the radio, to the announcers from London and Moscow.

Camouflage

If they are not frightened any more by the penalties they face if discovered. When one has a boy fighting hundreds of miles away, when the son, the brother, is out there in Russia—or maybe dead already—one wants to hear the truth. One cannot miss the chance of hearing that his life has been taken. It is so long before casualty lists are published—if they are ever published—or until the High Command sends out its cold notices to relatives of dead or wounded men. Never before have the people of Hamburg, indeed, the people of Germany, received so much news. Up in the north and in the west of Germany they realise that the new battle is on, a dangerous, grim battle: The Battle of Germany. For the first time in generations the war is on the doorstep of the German people. In Hamburg they know only too well why their mass-produced, cheap "People's Set," ingeniously designed to receive both German and British broadcasts with ease. They know that their local station shuts down early when it is a danger to the R.F.E. coming over. And that is frequently enough. They have heard the elaborate works of camouflage which Nazi technicians have built up all over the harbour area, along the ship wharves, duplicating buildings, warehouses, bridges. And they have heard objectives and camouflage being bombed by bombers, seen the flames leaping from the buildings and docks, and have seen the local Defence Commissar has tried to save them from the ever-increasing weight of the British bombs.

Depression

Yet if one were born and bred in Hamburg one could not help but feel a sense of depression. The famous San Paul district is dead now. Only two years ago sailors from all over the world crowded into the scene of little pubs and cabarets. They enjoyed their stay in what has often been described as a sailor's paradise, one of the gayest spots on the globe. The few people who now can penetrate into San Paul at night feel uneasy. The silence there is not that of a town in the blackest of war, where you can hear the laughter issue, as can be seen from a light from an open door for a few seconds or hear the courting couples joke in the dark. No, even if there is no raid, the silence of death reigns in San Paul. Rows and rows of houses have been destroyed. Those left standing are empty and deserted.

"HEART-KINDNESS"

YOU can't do without Heart-kindness—it's the main-spring of man's power; it puts a golden moment in every human hour; it lays a healing balm on pain and weariness; it's the shining path Love always moves in. Life's hard game of chess. YOU can't do without Heart-kindness—it's the gold latch on Life's door; it's the small thing that makes Life's big things worth it; it's the precious metal on Life's grim altar; it's the message in Life's rainbow; it's the soul's most precious thought. YOU can't do without Heart-kindness, and folk who think their cash has lost the Touch of Heaven, and when Heaven's light to man, there's nothing worth the holding. The only worth the toll: it is GOD WHO BEST HEART-KINDNESS IN LIFE'S HARD, STONY SOUL.—J.M.

as yet, but ingrained in thousands alive. Police sergeants are trying to round up the workers, prevent them from taking cover where but in the official shelters. The raids are always killing some of the men, wounding others. But the police have strict orders to see that hundreds of the survivors do not disappear and never turn up for work again after the raid. If Germany's dead city in the north isn't to become completely useless to the Nazis, the workers' escape to the south must be stopped.

Yet things always get out of hand as soon as the bombs begin to drop. When the searchlights flare up from among the ruins of San Paul, the police begin to go off, even the police have hardly time to look at the huge British birds, sliding silently, engines shut off, hardly discerning the heavy rain and the hailstones, flying less low to distinguish between their objectives and the Nazis, and they are dropping their bombs with appalling accuracy. In these few words one can now often detect the first spoken hope that Hitler and the Nazis should go. It is the seed of rebellion, unconsciously muttered against important personalities of the town: "The moneyed people have left Hamburg a long time ago. Yet they are importing workers and even women into this hell."

"Hackergruber has committed suicide rather than be killed. His business is gone, anyway. And he is not the only one."

There is a German morale soon broken down? There are signs of a major event in all my long experience of journalism has so confounded the so-called experts which, so far, the despised Russian armies have held up Hitler. He was to have captured Moscow in a month. Actually, he has been stuck for weeks as far away as ever. Has lost probably a million men in his wild dream. Yet, so far, he has failed. Day after day, the biggest battle in the history of the world goes on. On a front as long as the distance from London to New York and, in some places, in a depth of country as far as the oceans to Birmingham, two war machines are still at death-grips. Hitler's tanks, and his swift tanks, thousands of aeroplanes moved from the Western Front. He has now lost 10 per cent. of all his mechanised strength for one onslaught. The Germans claim that, whatever happens in the near future, the Russian Army is already so greatly weakened that it would be unable to undertake an invasion of the Reich for a considerable time; hence, if actually should not be in the West, no disturbance from the East need be feared.

THE BOER WAR AND THE RUSSIANS

YOU are not old enough, perhaps, to remember the Boer War. In the latter part of 1899, we sent to South Africa an army of 15,000 men to fight the Boers. Then, in December, we suffered a heavy defeat. They called it "The Black Week." But Robert and Kitchener were rushed out to mop things up—and even then it took them a long time. A brave but small nation, defeated and for a long time carried on guerrilla warfare, month after month. The British Army was made a mock of. Something like that has happened to the Germans, except that it is not a small nation but a big one. It does not possess only a few rifles, but a large number of rifles, which are apparently as powerful as the German ones, and an air force equal to the Luftwaffe. More than that, it is not a small army of blonde troops, brought up to yell "Heil Hitler" and follow a leader, but a well-trained army of men, with a lot of patriots and fighters for everything it holds dear. And we have not yet begun to attack. A high-placed Russian told me on Thursday night: "We are not even completely mobilised yet. Wait!"

NOW, if the French had been moved over a year ago, as the Russians are now believing, the German position would be a different one. Continental soil. Yet when the first tanks appeared, the French were.

STRIKING POWER SERIOUSLY CRIPPLED

WE cannot be sure of the ultimate issue. Even now, the German people are in a state of panic. But even if they do, their striking power is so seriously crippled that it is gradually dying on the home population that, after all, they are not so strong. Yet while Hitler's mad gamble and its results are many of the most fashionable minds in this country are still clinging to the old ideas of Russian invasion. Russian invasion. "Then, if the Bolshevism will spread," they say, "right across the Continent." How pitifully ignorant of the history of their own country are these thickheads. Have they no faith in the eternal good power of the British people? For centuries, have remained apart from the British people and given lessons from them, indeed, because of it, adapting and modernising its own system? I MUST proclaim again today my abiding confidence in the British people. I envisaged in these columns, world security based on an understanding between the United States and Germany and Russia. That was the dream. But now, with Russia's triumph, I am certain, is liberated by

By WILLI FRISCHHAUER

There is no escape from the R.A.F. . . . British planes will soon penetrate every corner of Germany. . . . Already they are striking heavy blows at German morale. . . . And this vivid pen-picture of Hamburg today—the Dead City of North Germany—the Huns know to be but a grim promise of things to come in every other big city of Hitler's Reich.

workers have gone—disappeared. They are before they can be forced to help clear away the debris, to search among the ruins of what was their workshop only an hour ago. They know that every available hand will be employed in building new flats, that days will elapse before new machinery appears and the night of the chaos of ambulances, fire-engines.

people to grow food for our salvation, and yet, while there is no shortage of food, of bottles, and spending £100,000,000 a week, we are very far from whom we depend for our food and cannot produce a living wage. When, at the Dorothy Thompson party, last week, I heard Dame Irene Van der Meer praised for her admirable broadcast to the bombed children, I said: "Yes, Dame Irene, you are very fine, but I deplore the fact that you had to appeal. Why, the other night, Admiral Bramante was pleading for clothes for the unborn children of Germany, and yet men who had been killed since that war started."

"What a mockery it is that we have to appeal for the bombed when, all the time, the State should be solemn and sacred duty, take charge of it all."

READY AND EAGER FOR ACTION!

THERE is one more thing I declare—the fact that Winston Churchill in again re- under one central head the entire productive forces of the nation. We are still talking, and thinking in terms of defeat. "Make tanks that we can advance and win," should be our cry. "Make ships that we can land men. Make shells so that we can smash our conquer and smash our way through and win, for the world, the world is ours." Our vast army at home in the island and in the past. It is easier for action. It faces how, unless we start to win, a long winter of monotony. And yet we starve our soldiers. We starve our education. Our House was once again dominated by the Premier last week. But the critics still go on.

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